(d) In Delhi, AT&C loss levels are calculated for entire DISCOMs and not on consumer category-wise. 37563 number of power pilfering cases were booked during the last three years and an amount of Rs. 137.79 crores has been recovered from them.

Financial assistance for setting up Hydro-Electric Power Projects

235. SHRl JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Centre extends financial assistance for establishment of Hydro-Electric Power Projects to State Governments;

(b) if so, the details of projects received, approved, quantum of amount sanctioned and released, during the last five years, year-wise and State-wise;

(c) whether fresh requests have been received from any State Government; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the Centre's response thereto, with special reference to Karnataka Government's proposal for establishment of a Hydro-Electric Power Project in Hassan district?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRl SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE): (a) The Ministry of Power does not directly extend any financial assistance for establishment of Hydro Electric Power Projects to the State Governments. The financial assistance to the State Governments is extended through their annual plans for overall development of the State, through the Planning Commission.

(b) to (d) Questions do not arise.

Athirappilly Hydel Project

236. SHRI K. CHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether necessary clearances have been given to Athirappilly Hydel Project in Kerala;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether steps were proposed to be taken for protection of environment and also the livelihood of the tribals in those areas; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE): (a) and (b) Athirappilly Hydro Electric Project (163 MW) was accorded Techno-Economic Clearance (TEC) by Central Electricity Authority (CEA) on 31st March, 2005 at an estimated cost of Rs. 385.6 crores at April, 2004 price level. As per information availabale with CEA, the environmental clearance for the above project was initially accorded on 20.1.1998. The environmental clearance was suspended on the basis of a judgment (17.10.2001) of the Hon'ble High Court of Kerala. The court had directed to conduct the public hearing, the public hearing was conducted by Kerala State Pollution Control Board (KSPCB) on 6.2.2002. Environmental clearance for the project was restored on 10.2.2002 subject to strict compliance to certain terms and conditions.

Public Interest Litigations (PILs) were filed before the Hon'ble High Court of Kerala against the grant of environmental clearance and implementation of the project. The